



2012

ANNUAL REPORT



**BEDFORD
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

BEDFORD, VIRGINIA





CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Members of Council,

I am proud to again present this annual report on behalf of the dedicated firefighters who make up the Bedford Fire Department. The department faced many challenges during the 2012 year and we mitigated those challenges by working together as a team and remaining focused on our mission statement. Our volunteers continue to demonstrate their personal commitment to protect the life and property of visitors and residents of both the City of Bedford and Bedford County.



L. Brad Creasy
Chief of Department

The fire department responded to 824 emergency calls during 2012; an increase of only three calls from last year. Our firefighters spent over 1,200 hours last year training to provide the most proficient, effective, and professional service possible. With the support of both localities, the Bedford Area Fire Training Facility continues to grow and offer area firefighters some of the best training in the state. As we move into a new year we will continue to ensure that our personnel are highly trained and prepared for all emergency challenges that face our community. With the decline of the economy, our department continues to be committed to maximizing financial resources while diligently working to maintain our high level of service.

As we move into 2013, the Bedford Fire Department will be celebrating our 125th anniversary and we look forward to continuing our long tradition of service to the community. As we move forward as a department and a Town, I look forward to the great things we will accomplish together to better serve the residents of Bedford.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of L. Brad Creasy in black ink.

L. Brad Creasy
Chief of Department



2012 ROSTER

Operational Officers:

Chief- L. Brad Creasy
Deputy Chief- Zeph Cunningham
Assistant Chief- Russell Stevens
Captain- Greg Fulton
1st Lieutenant- Bill Creasey
Lieutenant- Jason Overstreet

Administrative Officers:

President- Brandon Long
Vice-President- James Parker
Secretary- Matthew Scott
Asst. Secretary- Curtis Marshall
Treasurer- Lance Stenzel
Chaplain- Kenneth Taggart

Engineers:

Asst. Chief Russell Stevens
James Parker
Greg Fulton
Gordon Musgrove
Brad Creasy
William Crumpacker
Kevin Musgrove
Zeph Cunningham
Jeremy Garten
Billy Creasey
Brandon Long
Chad Baker
Jason Overstreet
C.J. Marshall
John Moore
Kenneth Taggart
John Gulatsi

Alternate Engineers:

Matt Scott
Alex McKinney
Garrett Pavich
Stephen Curry
Chris Gardner
Lance Stenzel

Salvage:

Lt. Jason Overstreet
Brandon Crouch
Stacey Wills
Stacey Hailey
Jerry Hacker
Barry Cornet
Caleb Dooley
Charles Huckaby

Fire Training:

Lt. Jason Overstreet
C.J. Marshall
Jason Overstreet

EMS Training:

Jon Ohlinger

Fire Marshal:

James Parker

BCoFR Liaison:

Zeph Cunningham

Communications:

Garrett Pavich
Billy Creasey
Michael Williams
Garrett Pavich

Hose Foreman:

1st Asst: Kevin Musgrove
2nd Asst: Jeremy Garten
3rd Asst: William Crumpacker
4th Asst: James Parker

Hoseman:

Capt. Greg Fulton
Eric Carter
Jon Ohlinger
Michael Williams
Steve McKinney
Ryan King

BCoFR Safety Officer:

James Parker

S.C.B.A. Maintenance:

Russell Stevens
Kevin Musgrove



HISTORY

The need for organized fire protection in the then Town of Liberty became most evident on the morning of October 12, 1884 when a fire began in a store operated by J.N. Early on the southeast corner of Bridge Street and Railroad Avenue. When the fire was discovered in the early morning hours very little could be done, as there was no organized fire department and a meager water supply. When daylight came, only two buildings were left standing, and the scene was one of desolation. In the years to follow several important events contributed to the growth of this small town. When owners began rebuilding their downtown businesses they used more permanent materials such as brick and heavy timber. The town also began installing a municipal water supply and had installed twenty-five fire hydrants by 1886. Area business men met in the fall of 1887 to discuss the need for an organized fire company to protect area businesses and homes. Several months later in early 1888, the Bedford Volunteer Fire Department was organized with a membership of twenty-five volunteer firemen; most of whom were downtown merchant owners.

Originally located on Court Street near the intersection of East Main Street, the Town of Bedford constructed a new firehouse for the fire department on West Depot Street in 1927. To accommodate larger apparatus and a growing membership, the City of Bedford built the current fire station at 315 Bedford Avenue in 1974.

Today, the Bedford Fire Department is responsible for more than just protecting life and property from the ravages of fire through fire suppression. It also provides a broad range of services that include emergency medical services, hazardous material responses, special and technical rescue, and fire prevention through public education.



Bedford Volunteer Fire Company; 1890



**First Motorized Truck (no pump or water)
1915 Jefferies**

B.F.D. TODAY

TOTAL SERVICE AREA: 194 square miles

TOTAL SERVICE POPULATION: 22,000

ACTIVE FIRE STATIONS: 1

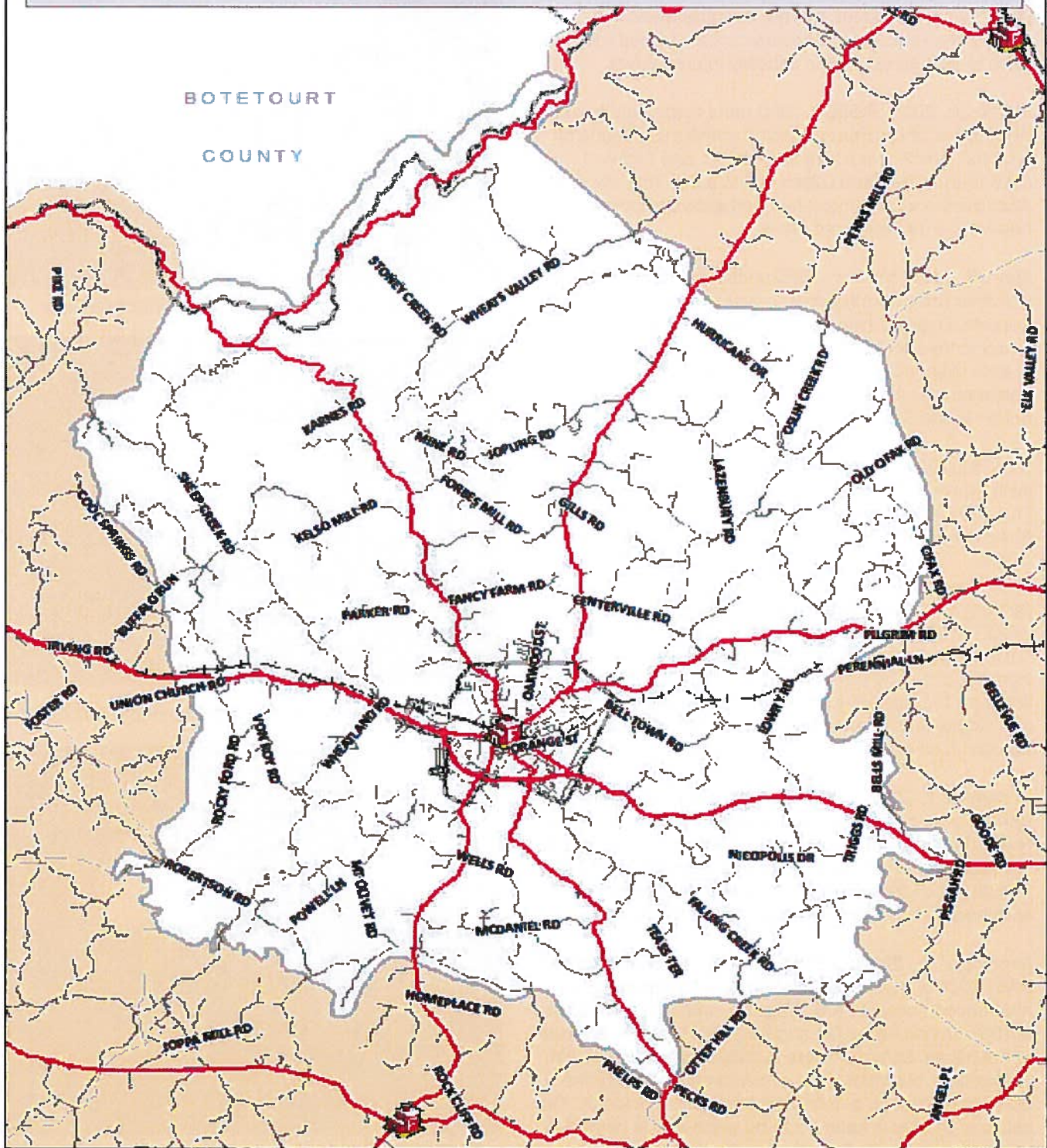
APPARATUS FLEET: 10

ACTIVE FIREFIGHTERS: 42



1st DUE SERVICE AREA

Bedford Fire Company - First Due Response Area





SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- February 8, 2012: 3:48pm- At the request of County 10, Rescue 1 (with six) was dispatched to the intersection of Leesville Road and Wyatt's Way in Huddleston for a motor vehicle accident with heavy entrapment. R-1 arrived and removed the drivers door and rolled the dash to gain access to the critically injured driver.
- March 20, 2012: 8:55pm- BFD units responded to the 5000 block of Lynchburg Salem Turnpike for reports of a motor vehicle crash with fire. Chief 1 and Engine 1 (with four) arrived at 9:02pm to find a SUV fully involved. After the fire was extinguished firefighters discovered the body of the fatally injured driver.
- May 28, 2012: 5:17pm- BFD units responded to 1609 Whitfield Drive for a reported house fire with subject trapped. Engine 1 (with four) arrived at 5:22pm to find heavy smoke coming from the rear of the house. Crews quickly extinguished a room and contents fire in the basement. No injuries were reported. Total BFD personnel on scene: 21.
- June 30, 2012: 9:15pm- A storm with Derecho winds swept through the area producing 81mph wind gusts. The BFD responded to thirty-three calls in just under three hours with twenty-one firefighters staffing seven trucks.
- October 5, 2012: 3:40am- BFD units responded to 2822 Lankford Mill Road for a reported attic fire. Engine 1 (with four) arrived at 3:51am to find heavy fire showing from the attic. The fire was marked under control at 4:14am. The homeowner was treated for minor burns and smoke inhalation but refused transport. Total BFD personnel on scene: 17.
- December 1, 2012: 11:52am- Just after leaving the Christmas parade to respond to a reported fire on Peaks Road, Engine 1 (with four) was involved in an accident at the intersection of Peaks Street and Boone Drive. All four firefighters on board were injured and transported to area hospitals. All were released before the next day.
- December 31, 2012: 9:33pm- BFD units responded to 3467 East Lynchburg Salem Turnpike for reports of an abandoned house on fire. Wagon 1 (with four) arrived at 9:40pm to find heavy fire showing from the attic and rear of the house. Searches were quickly conducted and with all negative, command had all personnel evacuate the building to conduct a defensive (exterior) attack only. The cause of the fire is believed to be arson and is being investigated by the Bedford County Fire Marshalls Office.



5/28/12 Working Fire: 1609 Whitfield Drive



10/5/12 Working Fire: 2822 Lankford Mill Road



12/31/12 Working Fire: 3467 E Lynchburg Salem Trpk



2012 GOAL RESULTS

1. **Replace leaking roof on fire station.** Funding through the 12-13FY CIP budget allowed for the replacement of the aging rubber membrane roof. Bids were obtained in July and a new roof was installed in October.
2. **Replace Heavy Rescue truck.** Acting on the advice of the committee that studied the efficiency of downsizing the current apparatus fleet, the department formed a committee to produce written specs for a new heavy rescue. The replacement of this heavy rescue, traditionally funded by the volunteer agency, is only possible if Bedford County agrees to release funding that previously would have been used to replace a 1991 tanker. Chief Creasy presented this proposal to the Board of Supervisors on November 27, 2012 but has yet to hear back with a definitive answer.
3. **Replace badly worn personal protective equipment (PPE) and outdated thermal imaging camera through grants.** The Assistance to Firefighters Grant was awarded to the Bedford Fire Department in 2012 for the amount of \$78,000.00 which allowed for the purchase of twenty-eight sets of PPE and one thermal imaging camera.
4. **Form committee to produce written specs for new pumper.** A five person committee was formed in January 2012 to develop written specs for a new pumper that will replace the 1988 Pierce currently used a reserve engine. The committee worked throughout the year to develop a user-friendly, state of the art pumper. Replacement for the pumper is slated for the 13/14 FY CIP budget.
5. **Erect sign at the entrance to the Bedford Area Fire Training Center.** Utilizing the skills and talents of our volunteer firefighters, the sign was constructed and erected in September 2012. Chief Jack Gautier of the Smith Mountain Lake Marine Fire Department donated the sign board and his talents as a machinist. Using his own routing equipment, Chief Gautier designed, produced, and painted the sign. Using Old Virginia Brick, FF/EMT Larry Barbour of the Forest Fire Department erected the brick columns that now hold the sign.
6. **Complete Liquid Petroleum Gas Props at the Bedford Area Fire Training Center.** Captain Jaye Eggleston has taken the lead on the LP Gas Prop construction which currently has plumbing and two steel props. A storage tank, control valves, and "Christmas tree" prop are scheduled to be added in the Spring of
7. **Add Advanced Life Support equipment; specifically drug boxes, to Engine 1 and Utility 1.**
A written request to the Bedford County Fire and Rescue Department requesting the addition of drug boxes to Engine 1 and Utility 1 (First Responder units) was denied. The addition of drug boxes will allow ALS certified firefighters to administer life saving drugs when an ambulance is not immediately available. A committee is researching the feasibility of becoming a certified EMS non-transport agency through the OEMS.
8. **Add restroom facility to Bedford Area Fire Training Center on Orange Street that can be utilized by both Fire and Police.**
Site preparation for restroom facilities, funded through the Bedford Fire Department, was completed in October 2012. This included tree removal and septic tank installation. To become operational these buildings will need to be set on a foundation with plumbing for water and sewer. Bedford County Fire & Rescue has agreed to fund the remaining work needed to make these buildings operational. Work is slated to begin in the Spring of 2013.



CERTIFICATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FIREFIGHTER II

A 40-hour course that is designed for the firefighter who is prepared to take more of a leadership role in the company. Students learn about leadership skills and more advanced fire ground techniques.

Certificates received by:

FF/EMT Kenny Taggart, FF Brandon Crouch

FF/EMT Charles Huckaby

BASIC PUMP OPERATOR

A 16 hour course that teaches basic entry skills for operating fire apparatus pumps, including pump theory and pumping equipment.

Certificate received by: FF Stacey Wills

DRIVER/OPERATOR-PUMPER

A 40-hour course with detailed instruction on the operation, maintenance and design of pumping fire apparatus.

Certificate received by: FF/EMT Kenneth Taggart

MAYDAY, FIREFIGHTER DOWN

A 16-hour course designed to teach advanced skills in victim/firefighter removal with an emphasis on working under the extreme pressures encountered while rescuing another firefighter.

Certificate received by: FF Christopher Gardner

LP GAS EMERGENCIES

A 16-hour course designed to help the student knowledge and skills necessary to safely and effectively manage a propane emergency.

Certificate received by: FF Christopher Gardner

STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE SCHOOL

An 8-day/80-hour course held in Virginia Beach designed to teach the student various skills and techniques that are associated with structural collapse operations. This course will challenge the student both physically and mentally with 12-14 hour days and an intense work load.

Certificate received by: FF/EMT Billy Creasey

FIRE OFFICER I

A 64-hour course that designed for new officers or officer candidates to learn basic skills such as communication, effective supervision and resource management.

Certificate received by FF/EMT Chad Baker

FIRE OFFICER III

A 40-hour course designed to cover all elements of the NFPA standard. The following topics are covered: Organizational Structure, Human Resource Management, Administration, Planning, Budgeting, Community Awareness, Public Fire Education, Inspections, and Emergency Services Delivery.

Certificate received by: FF/PM Curtis Marshall

LEADERSHIP II

12-hour course that provides the company officer with the basic leadership skills and tools needed to perform effectively in the fire service environment.

Certificate received by: FF/EMT Jason Overstreet

STRATEGY & TACTICS FOR THE INITIAL COMPANY OFFICER

16-hour course designed to meet the management needs of Company officers responsible for managing the operations of one or more companies during structural fire fighting operations.

Certificate received by: FF/PM Stephen Curry

INSTRUCTOR III

32-hour course designed to train participants on advanced techniques in constructing lesson plan development and develop training aids to support delivery.

Certificate received by: FF/PM Curtis Marshall

ESSENTIALS OF FIRE CHAPLAINCY

A 16-hour course designed to prepare the fire chaplain in fire service funerals, ministry to victims, ministry to firefighters, critical incident stress debriefing, and firefighter injury/death notification.

Certificate received by: FF/EMT Chad Baker



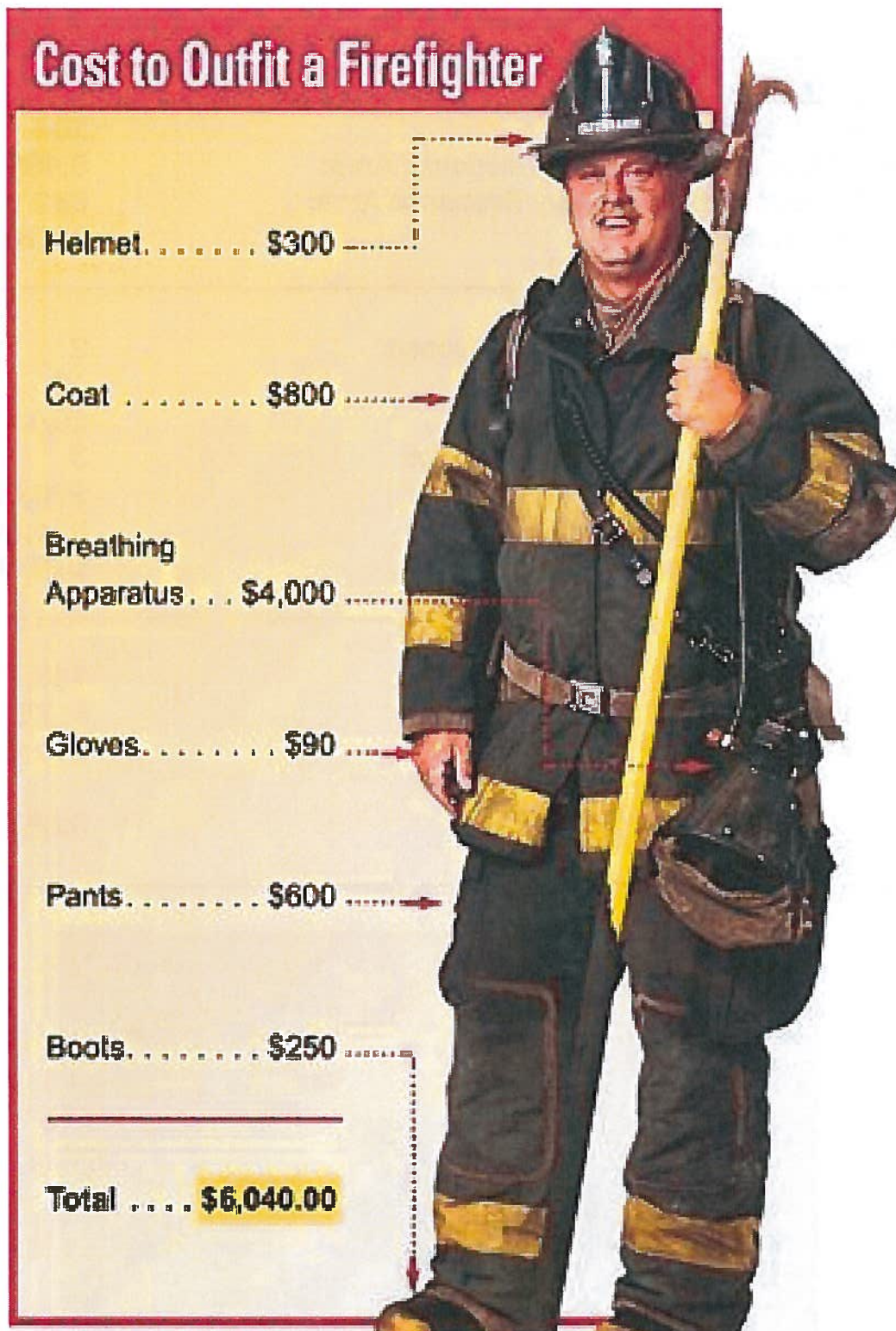
COST SAVINGS

Area Protected (square miles)	194
Residential Structures in Primary Response Area:	8,486
Commercial Structures in Primary Response Area:	642
Estimated Population:	22,200
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Average Number of Apparatus per Response:	2
Average Firefighters per Response:	12
Career Firefighters Needed per Shift:	10/shift
Shifts Needed For 24hr/7day wk Coverage:	3
Average Career Chief Officer Salary:	\$60,000
Average Career Firefighter/EMT Salary:	\$34,000
Average Career Firefighter/ALS Salary:	\$38,000
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Savings Per Firefighter:	\$43,778
Savings Per Residence:	\$175.00
Savings Per Capita:	\$72.00
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Total Annual Volunteer Savings:	<u>\$1,576,000</u>





THE COST OF SAVING LIVES





APPARATUS PROFILE

UNIT	YEAR/MODEL	
ENGINE 1	2007 Seagrave	1500gpm/750 gallons
WAGON 1	2002 M&W	1500gpm/1250 gallons
PUMPER 1	1988 Pierce	1250gpm/750 gallons
LADDER 1	2007 Seagrave	100' Aerial Ladder
RESCUE 1	1999 M&W	Walk-Around Heavy Rescue
BRUSH 1	2009 Ford F450	200gpm/300 gallons
BRUSH 1A	2006 Ford F550	200gpm/300 gallons
TANKER 1	1991 Pierce	450gpm/1200 gallons
UTILITY 1	2005 Chevrolet	EMS First Responder Unit
SUPPORT 1	1989 Ford F250	Hydrant Maintenance Unit



1927 Seagrave Pumper
(refurbished in 1988)

LADDER 1
2007 Seagrave Tractor Drawn Aerial



BRUSH 1
2009 Ford F-450

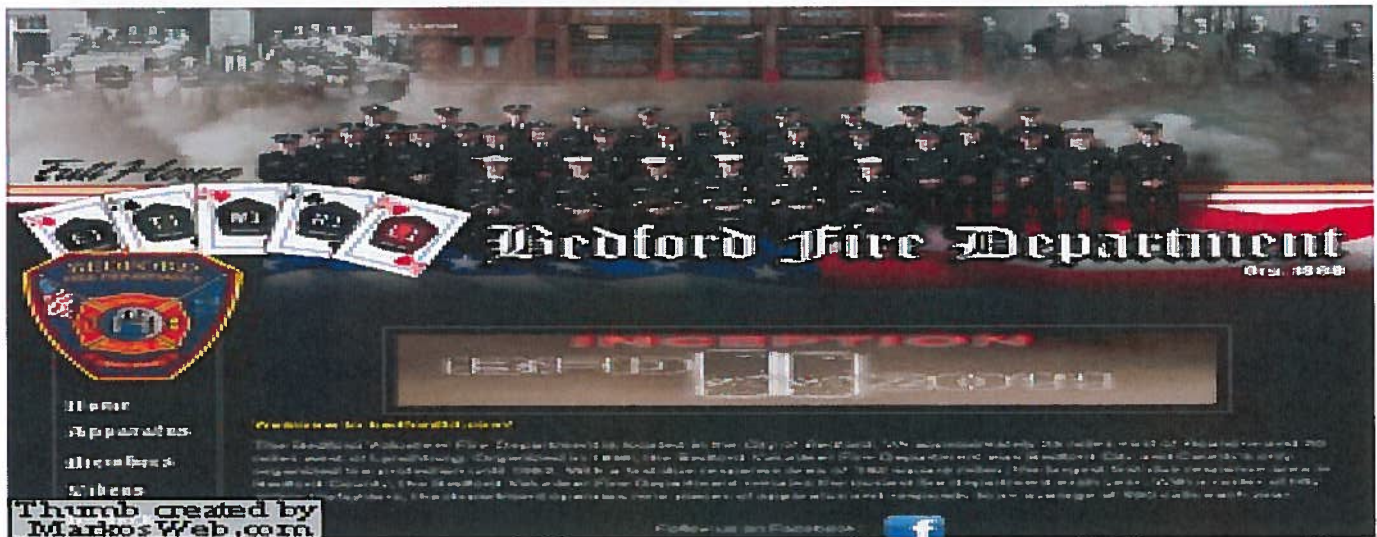


SOCIAL MEDIA

The Fire Department continues to share current news and upcoming events with the community and local media agencies through Twitter, Facebook, and www.bedfordfd.com; the department's website. The department's website went online in 2003 and currently gets an average of 32,000 hits each day. Website visitors from around the world can read through incident narratives, see personnel profiles and apparatus pictures, and review information on ISO ratings, our smoke detector installation program, etc. We currently have over 300 followers on Twitter who track department activity through "Tweets", or activity updates. The latest addition to our social media outlet was the addition of a Bedford Fire Department Facebook page in 2009. Currently there are 4,200 people who "Like" the department's page and follow department activity through Facebook; the second most of any fire department in the state of Virginia.



facebook





BEDFORD AREA FIRE TRAINING CENTER



**Bedford Area Fire Training Center
1050 Orange Street
Bedford, VA 24523**

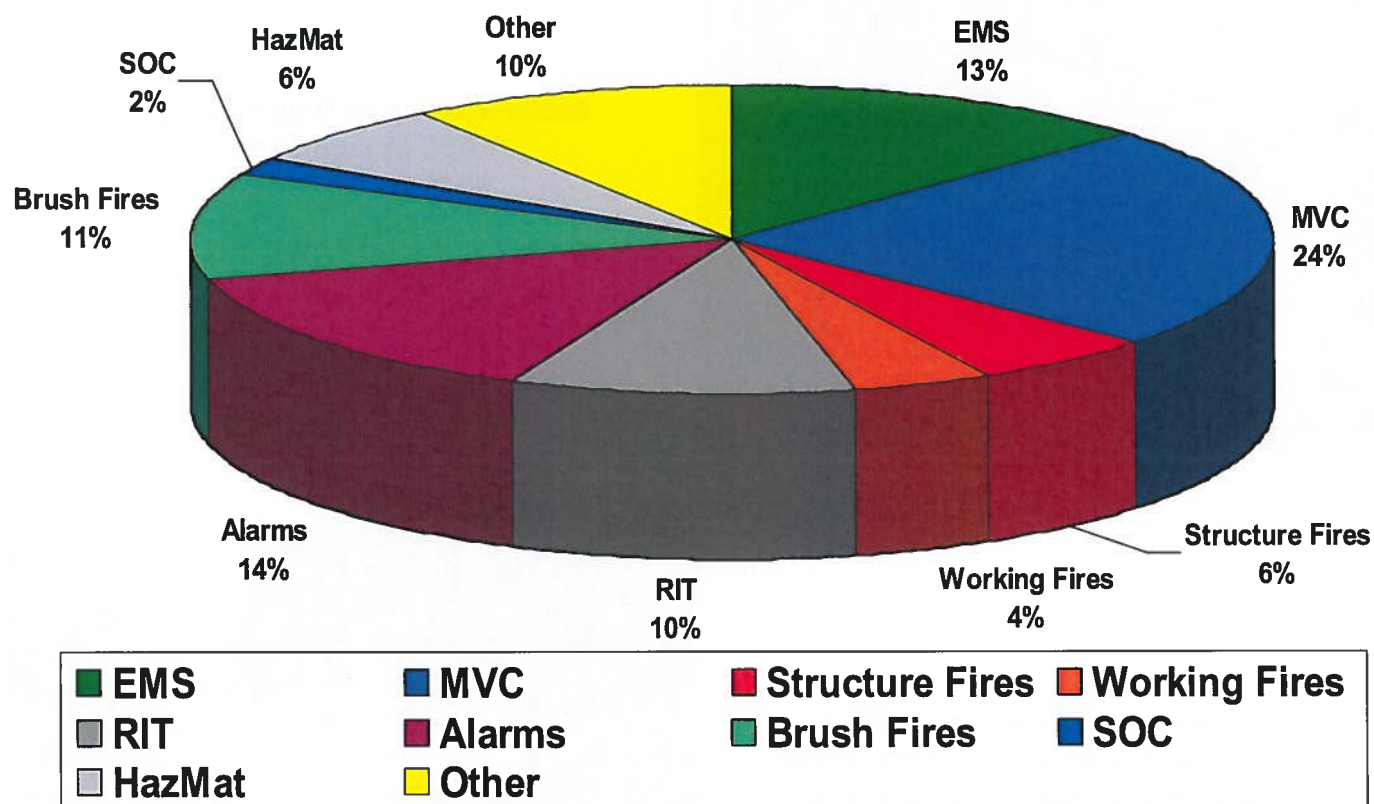
**New sign erected in August 2012.
Sign material and labor courtesy of SML
Fire Chief Jack Gautler. Brick laid by
FF/EMT Larry Barbour.**



**High voltage power line prop
Installed by the City of Electric
department in September 2012.**



STATISTICS



2012 Summary

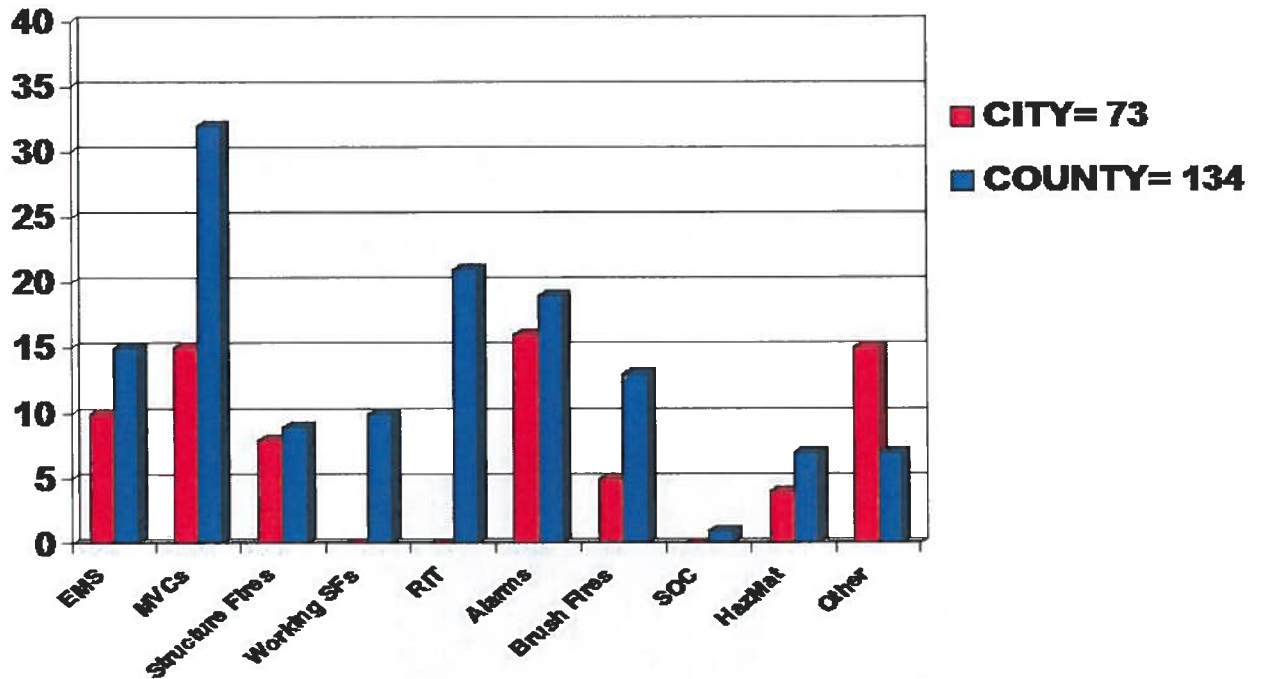
- Total responses: 824
- Average Firefighters per call: 12
- Responses that required fire suppression: 159
- Responses that involved medical treatment: 137
- Total dollar loss: \$586,000
- Civilian fire related injuries or deaths: 1
- Firefighter Injuries: 12

Quarterly Statistics by Type of Incident

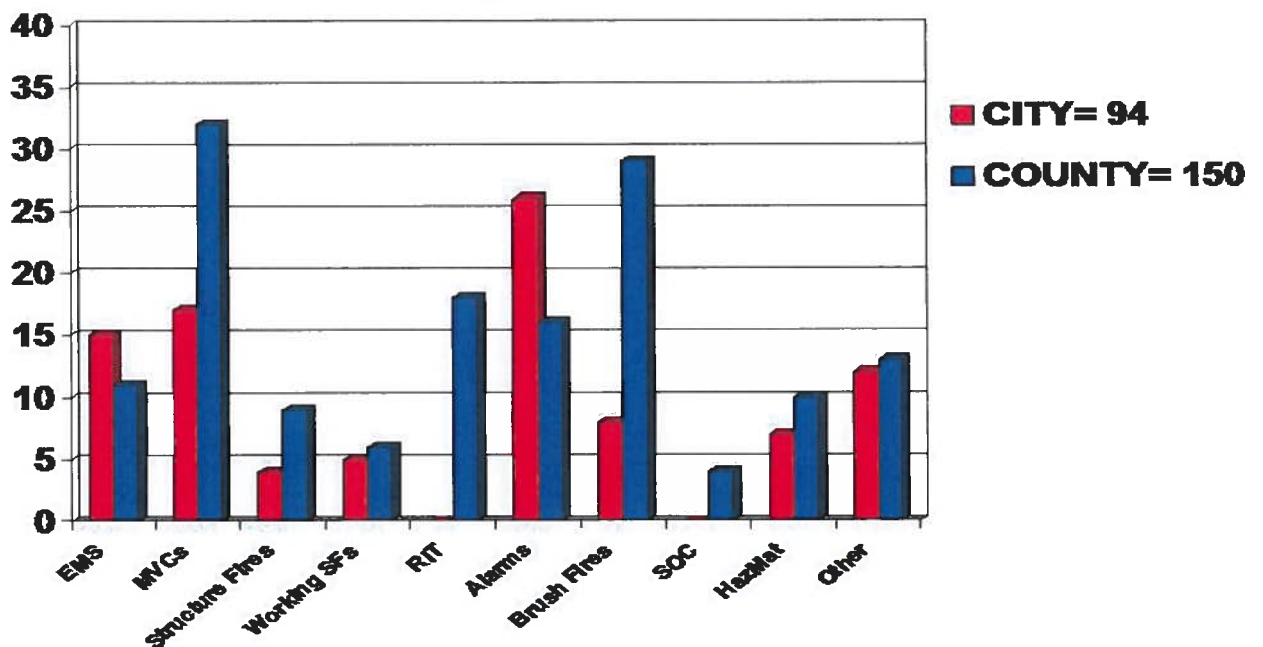




FIRST QUARTER STATISTICS

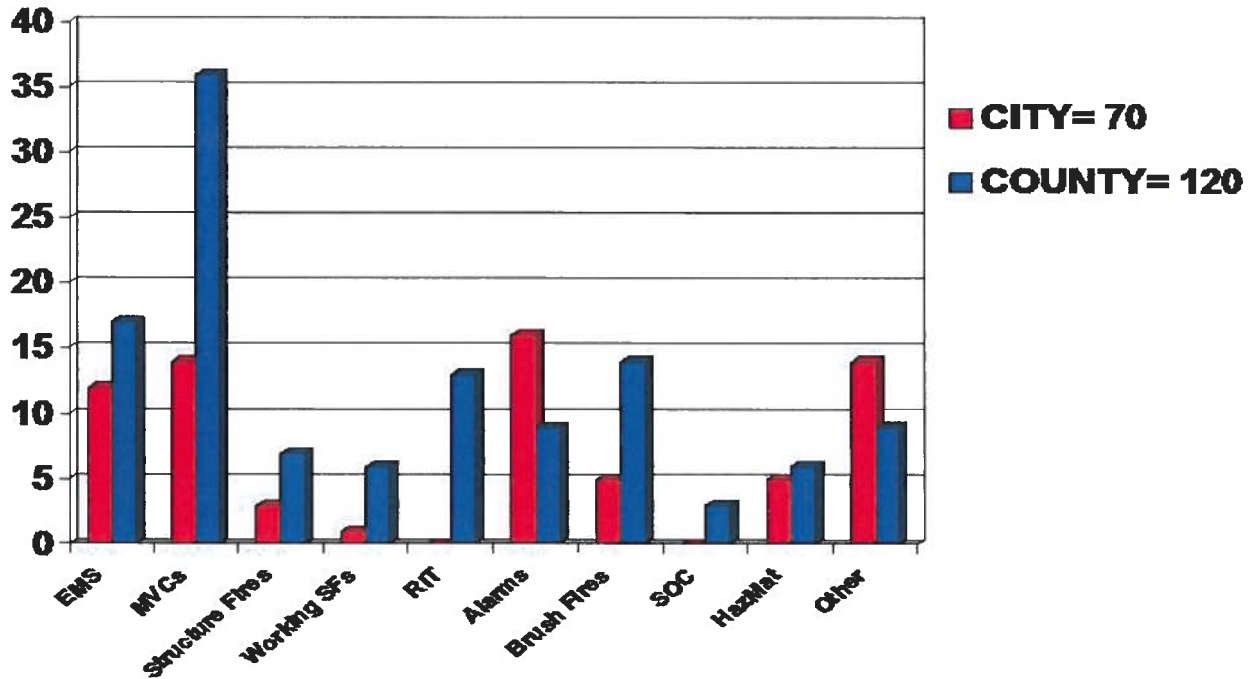


SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS





THIRD QUARTER STATISTICS



FOURTH QUARTER STATISTICS

